

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE DOMINION.

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Contributors and Enquirers—A Request.

Persons sending enquiries for our "QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS DEPARTMENT," or letters or articles for publication, will oblige us by always giving their Post Office, and Province or State, together with name plainly written, in order that no mistakes may arise. In several letters we have lately received this has been overlooked.

Perhaps some people think I am a fertilizer crank. I have written much on the subject. How could I do otherwise when good superphosphates have doubled my potato yield, as this year; more than doubled my wheat yield, as this year and often before.—W. I. Chamberlain.

The Western Fair.

The result of this year's Western Fair clearly shows that London continues to hold, as it undoubtedly will in the future, an enviable position as an agricultural exhibition centre, notably for live stock, poultry, dairy, and other farm products, agricultural machinery, etc. Like the Toronto Industrial, it seems to have weathered the "dull times" remarkably well, gate receipts being very little under 1893. We were pleased to observe that some reforms advised a year ago in the ADVOCATE, regarding ground management, were carried out, the "side-show element" being less conspicuous. We trust the directorate will see their way clear to further improvements in the arrangement of live stock buildings and grounds, and in providing a suitable seated pavilion, so that the judging of cattle, etc., may be viewed with something like the comfort enjoyed by the spectators of the speed and attraction ring. This would be a step towards making the Fair more of an educator along live stock lines, and be appreciated as a great boon.

Our review of the animals shown at London is of necessity brief. Most of those exhibited were shown at Toronto, and as we reported very fully each department at the last named Exhibition, it would be wearisome to our readers to reiterate what we said in our last issue. We therefore have only mentioned at length in this report such exhibits as were not shown in Toronto.

HORSES.

CLYDESDALES.

The Clyde exhibit was the lightest for a long time at London, there being too few in most of the sections to use up the prizes offered. In the aged imported section were just three forward. E. W. & G. Charlton's Wigton Lad, the first prize and sweepstakes winner, is a well-known show horse. He is a solid, well-finished fellow, that carries himself at the end of ten years like one not much past the colt stage. R. Shaw-Wood's Shamrock came second. He, too, has a splendid body, but failed to show the springy action of Wigton Lad. Mr. John Henderson, Milburn, came in third, with a useful horse, of good quality and action, but considered a little too rangy to beat the aforementioned. The younger stallion sections gave the judge a light task, as there was no competition in any of them, there being but one colt for each section. First prize, three-year-old, Alex. Holmes, Beachville; two-year-old, S. J. Prouse, Ingersoll; yearling, John Oliver, Duncrief. They were all good colts that would have kept their places in good company. In mare sections, Geo. Duffield received first for brood mare, and also for two-year-old filly. They are of that smooth, solid type, with good quality of limbs, which seldom, if ever, go wrong. Messrs. Charlton's second prize brood mare, first prize three-year-old filly, and foal of 1891, are a nice Clyde lot of horses. S. J. Prouse's third prize brood mare, first prize yearling mare, and second and third prize foals, are a creditable lot, safe enough to hold on to till the lively demand for heavy horses, which is sure to come before long, will make them a valuable property.

In the Canadian-bred Draught class, the entries were few. In mature stallions, three were shown. Vance & Eby's Golden Crown would have done credit to any imported horse ring, as he is a monster of splendid conformation. His body of 2,200 lbs. is without the sign of roughness, and his short, strong back, deep, sloping shoulder, giving him a splendid lengthy underline, is well carried upon a set of good wearing legs and feet. The remaining two possess good quality of legs, but were not in that heavy show condition to crowd Golden Crown for the first place. They were shown by Geo. Taylor, Kippen, and George Carrie, Ballymote. In three-year-olds, Dr. Harold's Samson was shown alone; he is a worthy son of Ringleader, having plenty of size and quality, which should give him confidence in entering any draught stallion showing. G. Taylor's yearling stallion had no competition; he, too, possesses nice quality and action. Mr. Taylor also showed a nice lot of mares, for which he obtained second on brood mare, first and sweepstakes on three-year-old filly, second on foal of 1891. Geo. Spearin, St. Mary's, had out the first prize brood mare and foal; they are both meritorious Clydes. The foal is almost a model. Hyder & Parkin, of Oxford Centre, had out a nice exhibit of Clydes and general purpose stock, for which they received a good share of awards, which the prize list shows. J. S. Robinson, of St. Mary's, exhibited a pair of fillies two and three years old, which will make a team hard to beat when mature. They were not in more than nice growing condition, but even then carried broad, useful, Clyde bodies, on legs of hard, flat, well-feathered type.

ROADSTERS.

In the class for Roadsters the entry was, as usual, large, but not a few were little better than weeds. There were, however, some good ones. In the four-year-old and over stallion section were seven contestants. The first and sweepstakes prizes were awarded to a London horse, Five Points, owned by T. D. Hodgins. He is a good-looking bay with lots of strength, and can do a mile in 2.18. John McIntyre's second prize horse is quite speedy, and looks like a safe horse to breed roadsters from. H. Cargill & Son's General Jackson, that won the red ticket in Toronto, received the third award here. It was evident that the General had not been handled much in harness this summer, which fact caused him to step down from his Toronto standing, where he was shown on the line. His graceful

appearance was as outstanding at the Western as at the Industrial. Cargill & Son's Toletto, the second winner in Standard-bred three-year-olds at Toronto, was alone in the Roadster three-year-old stallion section here. The younger stallion sections contained a small number of promising colts. The filly exhibit indicated a nice lot of future mares. There was much unevenness in most of the sections, but quality was outstanding in enough to use up the awards offered. In matched pairs, perhaps the less said the better; however, they were not all weeds, as H. Cargill & Son's first prize Toronto winners were among them, and took an easy first. A fairly well matched pair of grays, with good action, received the second award. In the single roadsters, ten were shown, about four of which were tolerably good ones. Several in the section were pacers, which did not assist them in getting a place.

CARRIAGE HORSES.

In the aged stallion class, like at the Industrial, a German Coach horse, Graf. Bremer, the property of Jas. McCartney, Thamesford, carried off the first and sweepstakes awards. He is a handsome horse of great substance, without coarseness. Docility and intelligence are outstanding features. His splendid trappy action should make him a very safe horse to use, to get the popular horse of the day. Improved Mambrino Hatcher, shown by D. Carroll, Baling, the second prize horse, is a good, useful sort of animal; he is a beautiful black, weighs about 1,400 lbs., and stands 16½ hands high. He has stylish and rapid action, plenty of bone, and has proved himself a getter of good stock. C. D. Smith's brown horse, the third premium winner, is a strong, useful animal, but lacks that breezy appearance of his more successful competitors. The younger stallion sections had out a few nice colts, competition being strongest in the two-year-olds. In all the filly and mare sections were good ones, and was as free from weeds as we have ever seen at the Western. R. M. Wilson, Delhi, showed a splendid pair of carriage mares. They are handsome, well matched, good movers, and large enough. Mr. A. Beck came in for best team between 15½ and 16 hands. He also made a fine display with his saddle horses and hunters, while his pair of cobs and four-in-hand were much admired whenever brought out.

THOROUGHBREDS.

Very few representatives of the old English race-horse were out this year. In the mature stallion ring were three splendid animals shown. Fred. Row's Norwegian, described in our Industrial Fair report, won first prize here, with J. B. Martin's Renelagh, and A. & P. Holmes' Pallarist, in the second and third places, respectively. There was a dearth of younger stallions, as a solitary yearling comprised the lot. He was shown by W. A. Sage, Nilestown, and is a breezy colt of great promise. Mr. Sage also showed a two-year-old filly, and C. P. Geary, St. Thomas, a brood mare with foal at foot. Mr. A. Beck also showed a nice two-year-old filly, for which he received second prize.

CATTLE

were a strong division. Many of the Toronto prize-winners were here.

SHORTHORNS.

The exhibitors in this class were James Crerar & Son, Shakespeare; Messrs. Smith, Exeter; John Morgan & Son, Kerwood; Chas. M. Simmons, Ivan; Messrs. Watt Bros., Salem; W. G. Saunders, St. Thomas; H. Cargill & Son, Cargill; R. & S. Nicholson, Sylvan; James Rennie, and others. Those who did not show at Toronto were John Morgan & Sons, who were out with nine very nice animals. W. G. Saunders, who showed two, a red bull calf, which he sold to J. McCallum, Iona, for \$75, and the aged bull, Elgin Chief, bred by A. Johnston, got by Indian Chief. This bull won third here, and fifth at Chicago last year.

HEREFORDS.

H. D. Smith, Compton, P. Q., and F. A. Fleming, Weston, showed the same animals here as in Toronto. There were no other exhibitors.

GALLOWAYS

were likewise represented by two herds shown in Toronto, viz., David McCrae's and R. Shaw's.

THE POLLED-ANGUS

class was also filled by animals shown at Toronto. The owners were R. Craik, M. D., Montreal; Hillhurst Farm, Compton, P. Q., and Walter Hall, Washington, Ont.

DAIRY BREEDS.

AYRSHIRES.

The Ayrshire exhibit was large, and contained a lot of grand cattle. Mr. Steacy, Lyn, and Mr. Cockburn, Aberystole, brought their herds here from Toronto, and again made splendid records in the winnings. As they have already been described, it is not necessary to notice them further. Kains Bros., Bryon, were out again this year with their well-known useful herd. Their aged bull, Castle Douglas, retains his fresh appearance, and captured the first prize again this year. Their fourteen head are in splendid breeding and milking fix, but not fitted for the show ring. Mr. Walter Nicol, Plattsville, had out seven nice cattle, headed by St. Nicholas, a splendid two-year-old, upon which the second prize was awarded. The females are a nice lot, that received a number of awards. Mr. M. Ballantyne, St. Marys, was present with a useful